

NEW BOOKS ON THE GREAT WAR BY DICKINSON, WELLS AND CHESTERTON—FRESH NOVELS

THREE ENGLISHMEN PUT TRUTH ABOVE PATRIOTISM

Lowes Dickinson, H. G. Wells and G. K. Chesterton Join Shaw in Constructive Criticism of War-Girt England

By the Literary Editor

IN THE face of Ireland, Casement, Orders in Council and the censor, this much may be said for England and this much may make her the noblest as she has often seemed the gauntest of the belligerents: Among her writers of repute she has produced more critics of her own national weaknesses than all the other fighting countries together. France has Romaine Rolland; Germany has Maximilian Harden; but to Bernard Shaw's voice, which spoke out loud and clear even in the beginning of conflict when many were mad and many silent, she has added the voices of H. G. Wells, Lowes Dickinson and G. K. Chesterton. When war-time conditions have been met and themselves with the pitch of verbal atrocities, it is a splendid record and a record that should mean much toward the sane, more tolerant and more intelligent world which is necessary before war will be ended.

Of the three new books from these English writers Lowes Dickinson's "The European Anarchy" (Macmillan Company, New York) is easily the soundest and most valuable. He makes his apologies for England in the first few pages. He finds England "as ambitious, as quarrelsome and as aggressive as other states." He admits that in the matter of peaceful intentions "our past inevitably discredits our future. And when we profess peace it is not unnatural that other nations should suspect a guile." He sees that to achieve peace "we must give up, in all nations, this habit of dwelling on the unique and peculiar wickedness of the enemy."

Beginning deep in the historical background of the early nineteenth century, he states and analyzes the conflicts and alliances which have linked half a dozen European nations in a dozen different combinations. It is the common sense of the common factor of an international anarchy which has thriven marvelously of late years on the new lease of life given the political philosophy of Machiavelli by the spirit of Bismarck. It has "made every budding statesman and historian a solemn or a cynical defender of the gospel of force. But through this he has seen, and he is right, therefore, to assume that there is some peculiar weakness which marks off German policy from that of all other nations. Machiavellianism is the common heritage of Europe. It is the common sense of the fact of international anarchy." He recognizes with Walter Lippman's "Stakes of Diplomacy" the common resting place of all conflicts in the common rush for the undeveloped countries.

Tracing thus the course of European conflict, Lowes Dickinson sees the only hope for peace in the abolition of anarchy through international action to enforce peace. He has a message for America apropos of Preparedness: "Preparedness for what? To enter that European competition for armaments, which alone is sufficient cause for war? Or to put armaments jointly with other States, behind law and against aggression, from whatever Power aggression may be threatened?"

Naturally this man cannot look on "crush and setting up commercial wars as producing anything but a bitter and unforgetting hatred" to "reign forever between the victor and the vanquished."

There Wells and Dickinson split. Wells is as ready to exorcise England. He knows that she is never sure whether she is a "ruined republic or a Germanic monarchy." He has no time for "anti-German leagues" and for people "who profess to believe that all Germans to the third and fourth generations (save and except the Hanoverian family domiciled in Great Britain) are a vile, treacherous and impossible race, a race animated by an incredible racial vanity, a race which is indeed carrying anything but a conspiracy against the rest of mankind." He recognizes that, "after all the Prussian dream of world empire" is "but an imitative response to the British Empire and the adventure of Napoleon."

But when it comes to the trade alliances and contemplated trade wars of what Wells deigns to call "the pledged Allies," he cannot see the saving of dragons' teeth. Wells is such a natural optimist and such an enthusiast for his desires that he can bend even this sinister move into a step toward world federation.

Wells's book, "What is Coming" (Macmillan Company, New York), is full of a great deal of good sense, and a great deal that is rich, thought-provoking and always good reading. He reflects on "lawyer government"; the corrective of the press; a new education to replace Oxford classicism; the winning of the vote for women among the military dangers of the munition factories; a new and "natural" map of Europe, with Ireland and Albania under cantonal government, Bombay and Constantinople international cities, Africa under the rule of a Latin league and Arabia a nation risen again; a world navy directed by Great

Britain, her colonies, France, Russia and the United States; and scores of other matters.

The major part of the book goes to the problem of what will happen to commercial, individualistic, capitalist England when the men come back from the trenches. "In the trenches there are workers who have broken with the old ruling class and who have for a long time been struggling with the actuality of war, masses of unemployed and untrained people, no longer strung up by the actuality of war, masses now trained to arms and with many sympathetic officers available, are released to the streets to find a world of rising prices and rising rents, of legal obstacles and forensic complications, of greedy speculators, and hampered enterprises, there will be insurrection and revolution. There will be bloodshed in the streets and the chasing of rulers."

The answer Mr. Wells finds in the statement: "We are beginning to agree that reasonably any man may be asked to die for his country; what we have to recognize is that any man's proprietorship, interest, or rights may just as properly be called upon to die."

As for Mr. Chesterton and his book, "The Crimes of England" (John Lane, New York), it is easily the best reading of the three, for rhetoric, humor and vigor; and in it he strikes, as always, for fundamental democracy. But, though Chesterton sees the faults of his native land with a thoroughness that neither of the commentators just mentioned, he sees them only for the very Chestertonian purpose of blackening Germany. Accusing his hypothetical German professor of always defending his own country and abusing Chesterton's, Chesterton falls into the interesting and only slight error of abusing both his own and his enemy's country.

With a master hand he paints the wrongs that England has wrought—staggering wrongs; but "whoever we have wronged," says "we have never wronged Germany." Not forgetting to inveigh with vigor against the Hanoverian family upon the English throne, he marshals still greater wrongs. "Again and again we have dragged her (Germany) from under the just vengeance of her enemies, from the holy anger of Maria Teresa, from the impatient and contemptuous sense of Napoleon. We have kept a ring around the Germans while they sacked Denmark and dismembered France. And if we had served our God as we have served their kings, there would not be today one soldier of them in our path, either to slander or to slay us."

WHERE "JULIA PAGE" FIRST CAME TO LIFE



At least, it was in this home—that of Kathleen Norris—that that well-known fictional figure was conceived. The author, who lives at Port Washington, L. I., is shown in the photograph.

WIGGIN STORY ACTED IN A MEETING HOUSE

Unusual Performance Given in Maine—Timely Notes of the Literary World

The little Tory Hill Meeting House at Buxton Lower Corner, Maine, was the scene recently for hundreds of admirers of Kate Douglas Wiggin, who gathered there to see the dramatic performance of Mrs. Wiggin's new England story, "The Old Peabody Few." Probably no other play has ever been given in such an unusual setting.

The action took place entirely in the wing pews of the church, and the actors and actresses were local people, many of them Mrs. Wiggin's summer neighbors. Before the play began Mrs. Wiggin told informally the circumstances surrounding the writing of "The Old Peabody Few," and gave an outline of the opening chapters, bringing the audience with her up to the time of the first scene. At the close of the last scene she read a prologue in verse, followed by a couplet, in which she called out each member of the cast.

The cast walked up the left aisle in front of the platform, curtsied to the audience and passed down the right aisle out of the church. Three performances were given, and at each of them the church was crowded to its doors.

The Century Company's September publications include: "Wilson and the Issues," by George Creel; "The Private Secretary: His Duties and Opportunities," by Edward Jones Kilduff; "Society's Missions," by Madeline Z. Doty; "The Camera Man," by Francis A. Collins; "On the Battle Front of Engineering," by A. Russell Bond, managing editor of the Scientific American; "The Dark Tower," by Miss Bottom.

ONE of the most striking and memorable novels of the season. It centers upon a strange, beautiful, mysterious musical genius—her loves, her struggles, her victories. A group of characters almost uncanny in their reality. A background tapestried with riches collected by an extraordinary temperament.

Set in rural England and snow-capped Switzerland. Saturated with humor and lighted with brilliant satire. Recommended by the publishers with the utmost confidence.

THE powerful story of a grand passion. And the adjective "grand" is here chosen advisedly. Set in rural England and snow-capped Switzerland. Saturated with humor and lighted with brilliant satire.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE CALIFORNIA, Brittany and England as a background for the biggest novel yet written by the author of "Quinn's Sprague's Canyon," etc. \$1.40

THE MYSTERY OF THE HATED MAN By James Montgomery Flagg "Authored by the illustrator." Clever foisting on subjects like "Whisker Culture," "The What-to-Wear Column," etc. \$1.25

AN AVERAGE WOMAN By W. Dane Bank The story of a boy who married a hat finisher in his father's factory. By the author of "James and Treasure." \$1.35

THE WOODCRAFT GIRLS AT CAMP By Lillian Elizabeth Roy The experiences of a group of city girls camping out. Officially endorsed by Ernest Thompson Seton for the Woodcraft League. \$1.25

BARNACLES By J. MacDougall Hay Fulfilling all the promise of that remarkable first novel, "Gilligan." Suggests comparison with the exquisite art of Barrie. \$1.40

THE DAUGHTER PAYS By Mrs. Battie Reynolds A very modern version of Beauty and the Beast. The romance of a girl who was true to herself. \$1.25

DEAD YESTERDAY By Mary Agnes Hamilton "A novel of rare fitness. We have not had in any country at war so sane, so enduring a point of view presented in a work of fiction." \$1.50

PARROT SHOWS WIFE THE WAY TO LIBERTY

Bizarre Interest in Novel by Author of "Ships That Pass in the Night"

It required the voice of a parrot, trained by its admiring owner to utter a few more or less meaningless phrases, to awaken Joan Halbrook, the country-bred wife of a great scholar, to the fact that the learning she had acquired in the seven years of her married life was nothing but the reflected glory of her husband's uncommonly brilliant mind. Also it convinced the young woman that her husband's sudden and well-nigh succeeded in his avowed purpose of "re-creating her soul" and dominating her individuality. The parrot alone was responsible for Joan's sudden revolt. She broke the bonds of her mental and spiritual servitude by running away in search of the freedom she had lost through her marriage. Leaving her husband desolate in the forlorn home that had been a prison to her, she started out on a pilgrimage that carried her from England to America, the land of the free, and subjected herself to a series of unusual experiences before she finally realized the true meaning of liberty, and how it can be reconciled with love. This is the story told by Beatrice Harraden in her latest novel, "The Guiding Thread" (Frederick A. Stokes & Co., New York), and it may be claimed that it has all the bizarre interest that gave the same gifted author's "Ships That Pass in the Night" its popularity a good many years ago.

Paul G. Thompson's latest addition to his "Classmate Series" is called "The Strange Gray Canoe" (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York), tells of an expedition by four wideawake youngsters through the Canada lakes in one of those frail but fascinating craft that are the delight of summer vacationists, and is a rattling story for boys, with enough adventure to engage the interest of readers of riper years.

How a New York cabaret singer, a dainty and virtuous maid for all her lurid environment, captivates the action of an

NEW AUTUMN BOOKS A BAFFLING DETECTIVE MYSTERY STORY THE HAMPSTEAD MYSTERY By WATSON & REES Cloth, Net, \$1.35

An absorbing story of a mysterious murder in which the detective element is most skillfully handled and the mystery wonderfully sustained until the end.

VITALLY AMERICAN WINDY McPHERSON'S SON By SHERWOOD ANDERSON Cloth, Net, \$1.40

The soul of man as the author has found it in America is the theme of this really important novel. "In its pages lies the promise of a new, fresh, clean and virile spirit in American literature," writes Ben Hecht in The Chicago Evening Post.

RICH IN LAUGHTER A LITTLE QUESTION IN LADIES' RIGHTS By PARKER H. FILLMORE Author of "The Hickory Limb," etc. Illustrated. Cloth, 50 cents net.

Mr. Fillmore is already well known as a clever delineator of the child mind, and this, like his previous stories, is a true picture of American child life—the humorous chronicle of a neighborhood.

AMERICAN SATIRE A LITTLE BOOK IN C MAJOR By H. L. MENCKEN, Co-editor of "Smart Set." Cloth, 50 cents net.

A collection of about 225 original epigrams with a single point of view running through them. As very few books of epigrams by Americans have ever been printed, this volume should have considerable vogue.

REMARKABLE POETRY DOREEN and the SENTIMENTAL BLOKE By C. J. DENNIS Cloth, 75 cents net.

In thirteen poems, written in the slang peculiar to Australia, are set forth in most convincing and touching fashion some experiences in the life of Bill, lately a Melbourne crook, but now, through love of Doreen, on the straight. A decided novelty in verse.

AT ALL BOOKSELLERS JOHN LANE CO., NEW YORK

Cap'n Gid By Elizabeth Lincoln Gould As a "type" Cap'n Gid is part and parcel of quaint New England. But the Cap'n refuses to conform to "type" in many ways—and that makes him enjoyable. He falls in love when he's far from young—and this story of his romance is filled with the cheer of life that keeps your eyes glistening. At All Bookstores, \$1.00 Net

AT ALL BOOKSELLERS JOHN LANE CO., NEW YORK

THE IMPOSSIBLE Mrs. BELLEW

By DAVID LISLE

Is it right for a woman, having once strayed, to accept the love of a good man and her chance for happiness, or must her past and the world's judgment keep her down forever? This question is answered as the story is brought to a surprising and dramatic climax.

As the United States is now the dominant Power in the Caribbean Sea and as its interests there are increasing in importance every year, Prof. Chester Lloyd Jones, of the University of Wisconsin, has done a public service in writing, "Caribbean Interests of the United States." (D. Appleton & Co., New York). In the 345 pages of the book he covers the ground ade-

quately. Students of special phases of the subject might wish a fuller treatment, but for the general reader no more satisfactory volume has come from the press.

Now Ready Mr. H. G. Wells' New Novel MR. BRITLING SEES IT THROUGH

In this stirring story Mr. Wells reveals the true heart and mind of the English people. He pictures the England of today in a way that cannot be easily forgotten—so vividly does he draw his characters and the scenes through which they move with high courage and heroism. Mr. Wells' new novel carries a profound message to all Americans, but the chief interest of the book is in the story itself—the life of Mr. Britling and his family—this is what wins and holds the reader's attention.

An Early Reviewer says of Mr. Wells' new novel:—"There has been nothing so fine before. . . . The war has reacted on Mr. Wells: his books for all their brilliance have seldom before brought a catch in the throat. . . . He is growing in humanness, surely, as he grows in vision."

Now Ready At All Bookstores, \$1.50 THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, Publishers, New York

Published today The Melancholy Tale of "Me" (My Remembrances) By E. H. SOTHERN

This is a volume of autobiographic reminiscences of the celebrated actor, in the pages of which are presented, with an extraordinary sympathy and skill, most of the leaders in the dramatic world of, say, the last half century, including, of course, the author's famous father. But it is by no means to be taken simply as a conventional volume of reminiscences: it is a combination of incidents, sketches, portraits, observations, some of them whimsical, some fantastic, some pathetic, so interwoven as to form a complete presentation of the author's personality and career.

Profusely illustrated, \$3.50 net. AT ALL BOOKSELLERS JOHN LANE CO., NEW YORK

Published today The Melancholy Tale of "Me" (My Remembrances) By E. H. SOTHERN

This is a volume of autobiographic reminiscences of the celebrated actor, in the pages of which are presented, with an extraordinary sympathy and skill, most of the leaders in the dramatic world of, say, the last half century, including, of course, the author's famous father. But it is by no means to be taken simply as a conventional volume of reminiscences: it is a combination of incidents, sketches, portraits, observations, some of them whimsical, some fantastic, some pathetic, so interwoven as to form a complete presentation of the author's personality and career.

Profusely illustrated, \$3.50 net. AT ALL BOOKSELLERS JOHN LANE CO., NEW YORK

"This is a 'War Book' that is of REAL IMPORTANCE."—Army and Navy Journal. HILAIRE BELLOC'S Elements of the Great War

Two Volumes Now Ready \$1.50 Net Each Vol. 1—Causes and Forces Involved Vol. 2—The Battle of the Marne

The Elements of the Great War is not a partisan document, but a masterly presentation of truth, written in a scientific spirit which scrupulously separates fact from conjecture and sets down the judgment of the noblest elements of civilization. A great military history by a man peculiarly fitted for the task.

At All Dealers \$1.50 Net Each HEARST'S INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CO., NEW YORK

The More Excellent Way

A story of modern society and the divorce question, the scenes in New York, Sorrento, Bermuda and Reno. The really serious purpose and telling lessons of the book are for the moment forgotten in the swift succession of its dramatic developments.

All Bookellers G. P. Putnam's Sons New York London

DANCING

LOESER'S NIXON THEATRE BLDG. 410 N. 3rd St. BEGINNERS' CLASS Tues., Thurs. & Fri. Orchestra Reception Mon., Wed. & Sat. PRIVATE LESSONS DAY AND EVENING High School Class, course Friday afternoon.

Prof. Frank J. Owen, Instructor Hermann's Celebrated Orchestra

WAGNER—DANCING 1159 NORTH BROAD—PHONE DIA. 858 SCHOLAR NIGHTS Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Reception Wed. & Sat. Evgs. New Feature "Ball" Feb. 7

STRICTLY PRIVATE LESSONS, \$5 per week well equipped studio piano club food and drink furnished. For particulars apply to Mrs. C. E. BENTLEY, 1159 North Broad, Philadelphia, Pa.

There is not one of these books that is not conspicuous in quality in its own particular field.

THIS IS AN APPLETON BOOK